

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 419

Expressing the sense of Congress on the propriety and need for expeditious construction of the National World War II Memorial at the Rainbow Pool on the National Mall in the Nation's Capitol.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 6, 2000

Mr. STUMP (for himself and Mr. HYDE) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress on the propriety and need for expeditious construction of the National World War II Memorial at the Rainbow Pool on the National Mall in the Nation's Capitol.

Whereas World War II is the defining event of the twentieth century for the United States and its wartime allies;

Whereas in World War II, more than 16,000,000 American men and women served in uniform in the Armed Forces, more than 400,000 of them gave their lives, and more than 670,000 of them were wounded;

Whereas many millions more on the home front in the United States organized and sacrificed to give unwavering support to those in uniform;

Whereas fewer than 6,000,000 World War II veterans are surviving at the end of the twentieth century, and the Nation mourns the passing of more than 1,200 veterans each day;

Whereas Congress, in Public Law 103–422 (108 Stat. 4356) enacted in 1994, approved the location of a memorial to this epic era in an area of the National Mall that includes the Rainbow Pool;

Whereas since 1995, the National World War II Memorial site and design have been the subject of 19 public hearings that have resulted in an endorsement from the State Historic Preservation Officer of the District of Columbia, three endorsements from the District of Columbia Historic Preservation Review Board, the endorsement of many Members of Congress, and, most significantly, four approvals from the Commission of Fine Arts and four approvals from the National Capital Planning Commission (including the approvals of those Commissions for the final architectural design);

Whereas on Veterans Day 1995, the President dedicated the approved site at the Rainbow Pool on the National Mall as the site for the National World War II Memorial; and

Whereas fundraising for the National World War II Memorial has been enormously successful, garnering enthusiastic support from half a million individual Americans, hundreds of corporations and foundations, dozens of civic, fraternal, and professional organizations, state legislatures, students in 1,100 schools, and more than 450 veterans groups representing 11,000,000 veterans: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*  
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

3           (1) it is appropriate for the United States to  
4 memorialize in the Nation’s Capitol the triumph of  
5 democracy over tyranny in World War II, the most  
6 important event of the twentieth century;

7           (2) the will of the American people to memori-  
8 alize that triumph and all who labored to achieve it,  
9 and the decisions made on that memorialization by  
10 the appointed bodies charged by law with protecting  
11 the public’s interests in the design, location, and  
12 construction of memorials on the National Mall in  
13 the Nation’s Capitol, should be fulfilled by the con-  
14 struction of the National World War II Memorial, as  
15 designed, at the approved and dedicated Rainbow  
16 Pool site on the National Mall; and

17          (3) it is imperative that expeditious action be  
18 taken to commence and complete the construction of  
19 the National World War II Memorial so that the  
20 completed memorial will be dedicated while Ameri-  
21 cans of the World War II generation are alive to re-  
22 ceive the national tribute embodied in that memo-  
23 rial, which they earned with their sacrifice and

- 1 achievement during the largest and most devastating
- 2 war the world has known.

